



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/769,598

01/30/2004

Peter C. Zhu

56301P5007

8771

8791

7590

06/16/2006

BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN
12400 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD
SEVENTH FLOOR
LOS ANGELES, CA 90025-1030

EXAMINER

CHONG, YONG SOO

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1617

DATE MAILED: 06/16/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/769,598	Applicant(s) ZHU ET AL.	
	Examiner Yong S. Chong	Art Unit 1617	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 May 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 5,6,9,11-18,21 and 24 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3,4,7,8,10,19,20,22,23 and 25-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>5/18/06</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Status of the Application

This Office Action is in response to applicant's arguments filed on 5/12/2006. Claim 2 has been cancelled. Claims 25-27 have been added. Claims 1, 3-27 are pending. Claim 1 has been amended. Claims 5-6, 9, 11-18, 21, 24 have been withdrawn. Claims 1, 3-4, 7-8, 10, 19-20, 22-23, 25-27 are examined herein.

The terminal disclaimer filed on 5/12/2006 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application which would extend beyond the expiration date of copending Application number 10/769,603 and 11/172,343 has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer has been recorded. The obviousness double patenting rejections are hereby withdrawn.

Applicant's arguments have been fully considered but found not persuasive. The 102(b) and 103(a) rejections are maintained for reasons of record and repeated below. The following new rejections will also apply.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claim 27 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claims contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled

in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

There is no support in the specification of a composition with a compound of formula I and further comprising tuberculosis in the diluent.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Klimko et al. (Zhurnal Obshchei Khimii, 1959, 29, pg. 4027-4029).

Klimko et al. teach the synthesis of phenylmalondialdehyde as the product of an aqueous workup with H₂SO₄ and HCl in 28% yield from the starting materials (abstract).

Response to Arguments

Applicant argues that Klimko et al. does not teach that phenylmalondialdehyde is germicidal or in a germicidally effective amount. Examiner respectfully reminds Applicant that a compound and its properties are inseparable. Moreover, in the absence of a limitation in the claims stating what exactly is the range of a germicidally effective amount, Examiner views the amount recovered in 28% yield by Klimko et al. to meet this germicidally effective amount.

“Products of identical chemical composition can not have mutual exclusive properties.” Any properties exhibited by or benefits from are not given any patentable

Art Unit: 1617

weight over the prior art provided the composition is inherent. A chemical composition and its properties are inseparable. Therefore, if the prior art teaches the identical chemical structure, the disclosed properties are necessarily present. *In re Spada*, 911 F.2d 705, 709, 15 USPQ 1655, 1658 (Fed. Cir. 1990). See MPEP 2112.01. The burden is shifted to the applicant to show that the prior art product does not inherently possess the same properties as the instantly claimed product.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham vs John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

Claims 3-4, 7-8, 10, 19-20, 22-23, 25-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Klimko et al. (*Zhurnal Obshchei Khimii*, 1959, 29, pg. 4027-4029) as applied to claim 1 in view of Yagi et al. (US Patent 6,429,220 B1), Bratescu et al. (US Patent Application 2004/0071653 A1), and Duran-Patron et al. (*Tetrahedron*, 55, 1999, pg. 2389-2400).

Art Unit: 1617

The instant claims are directed to a germicidal composition comprising phenylmalondialdehyde, isophthalaldehyde, terephthalaldehyde, a buffer, a chelating agent, a surfactant, a corrosion inhibitor, a fragrance, and a coloring agent.

Klimko et al. teach as discussed above.

However, Kilmko et al. fail to disclose isophthalaldehyde, terephthalaldehyde, a buffer, a chelating agent, a surfactant, a corrosion inhibitor, a fragrance, and a coloring agent.

Yagi et al. teach that aldehyde compounds such as isophthalaldehyde and terephthalaldehyde are antimicrobial agents (col. 6, lines 52-65).

Brateschu et al. teach an antimicrobial composition (abstract) comprising surfactants, fragrances, solvents, dyes (section 0183), chelating agents, colorants, corrosion inhibitors (section 0184), and buffers (section 0196).

Therefore, it would have been prima facie obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the claimed invention was made, to include phenylmalondialdehyde as taught by Klimko et al. with isophthalaldehyde and terephthalaldehyde as taught by Yagi et al. to the antimicrobial composition as taught by Brateschu et al.

A person of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to combine all of these dialdehydes in the same antimicrobial composition because dialdehyde functionalities are known to possess potent antibiotic properties as taught by Duran-Patron et al. (pg. 2389, abstract and paragraph 1-2). Furthermore, it is obvious to combine two or more dialdehydes in the same composition because they are well

Art Unit: 1617

known in the art to be useful for the same purpose, which in the case are antimicrobial agents.

"It is *prima facie* obvious to combine two compositions each of which is taught by the prior art to be useful for the same purpose, in order to form a third composition to be used for the very same purpose.... The idea of combining them flows logically from their having been individually taught in the prior art." *In re Kerkhoven*, 626 F.2d 846, 850, 205 USPQ 1069, 1072 (CCPA 1980).

Response to Arguments

Applicant argues that Duran-Patron et al. does not teach that most dialdehydes are potent germicides. Applicant also argues that Duran-Patron et al. state that the activities are "diverse" and differences to be "dramatic," therefore inappropriate to assume any reasonable expectation of success that the whole genus of dialdehydes will have practically useful germicidal efficacies.

Applicant's arguments are not persuasive because Duran-Patron et al. clearly state the relationship between dialdehyde functionality and potent antibiotic or bioactive properties. Furthermore, the standard for obviousness is not absolute success, but rather a reasonable expectation of success. Even though structurally similar compounds disclosed by Duran-Patron et al. might have "diverse" or their differences to be "dramatic" the fact remains that dialdehyde compounds disclosed by Duran-Patron et al. possess some level of bioactivity, which would present a reasonable expectation of success.

Finally, Applicant argues that Example 11 of the present application demonstrates unexpected synergism.

The Applicant has the initial burden to present clear and convincing factual evidence of nonobviousness or unexpected results, i.e., side-by-side comparison with the closest prior art in support of nonobviousness for the instant claimed invention over the prior art. Prima facie case of synergism has not been established if the data or result is not obvious. The synergism should be sufficient to overcome the obviousness, but must also be commensurate with the scope of the claims. In the instant case, it is not clear whether the beneficial data is from additive effects, or from synergism. IPA or TPA has not been tested alone. For the above stated reasons, said claims are properly rejected under 35 U.S.C.103(a). Therefore, said rejections are adhered to.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

Art Unit: 1617

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yong S. Chong whose telephone number is (571)-272-8513. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 9-6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, SREENI PADMANABHAN can be reached on (571)-272-0629. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571)-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

YSC

SHENG JIN WANG
PRIMARY EXAMINER